

REMARKS

Claims 4 and 7-10 are proposed for amendment herein. Claims 1-3 have been cancelled. Claims 4-11 are presently pending in the above-identified application. Amendments to the drawings and Specification are as set forth hereinabove.

Allowable Subject Matter – Claims 4-6

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication (see, Office Action, page 3) that claims 4-6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. To that end, Applicants have amended and rewritten originally filed dependent claim 4 in independent form (including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims) herein and respectfully submit that such pending independent claim is in condition for allowance. Further, as the pending dependent claims 5-7, as amended herein, contain all the limitations of the pending amended independent claim 4 from which they depend, Applicants respectfully submit that these dependent claims are also in condition for allowance.

Pending Claims 8-11

In view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter as set forth above in regard to claims 4-6, Applicants have amended independent claim 8 to include similar claim limitations as set forth in amended independent claim 4 herein. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 8, a method claim, is also in condition for allowance. Further, as the pending dependent claims 9-11, as amended herein, contain all the limitations of the pending amended independent claim 8 from which they depend, Applicants respectfully submit that these dependent claims are also in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, and the Examiner's prior indication of allowable subject matter (as set forth above), it is respectfully submitted that each of the currently pending claims in the application is in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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By _____

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05/03/05

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

In response to the objection to the drawings as set forth in the above-identified Office Action, Applicants have submitted two (2) sheets of corrected formal drawings in substitution for the originally filed Figure 1 and Figure 2 in the subject application. Applicants respectfully submit that the corrected drawings overcome the objection, which objection Applicants request be withdrawn. Applicants request that such corrected formal drawings be made of record in the subject application.

Each of the drawings sheets submitted herein is identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet", as indicated in the Office Action.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets.